

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:
 October 16, 2002
 I graduated from Bird City High School in 1957 and have returned as often as possible since then to spend time in my beloved home town. I visit the Bird City Cemetery several times during my stays. The grounds have always been beautifully maintained—until this visit. Grass has not been cut, and several varieties of weeds, thistles, sandburs and stickers are thriving.
 Many of my relatives and people I went to school with, lived with, and loved, lie there among the wicked weeds and the uncut grass. I understand Mr. Robertson was quite generous with the town in his will; his grave is there, too. Isn't there something wrong with this picture?
 I visited St. Francis Cemetery yesterday—thinking maybe cemetery grounds are not maintained in the autumn? Yes, they are: the caretaker was on the job, and the grounds look like Bird City Cemetery grounds used to look.
 Members of the cemetery board tell me a caretaker is under contract; there are funds for his salary; there is spray

to eliminate/control the weeds. Is the caretaker waiting for snow to conceal the neglect?
 Come on, Bird City, we've always been way better than this. Let's see that the work gets done that needs to be done.
 Sondra Shahan Doughty
 9105 Heatherwood
 Austin, TX 78748
 October 17, 2002
 It's been more than a month now since I arrived in Bird City. During that time the cemetery has been as I described it above. Late this afternoon I returned for one last visit before giving my letter to the Times editor and returning to Texas.
 The air was warm and sweet; the sun, low in the west, cast soft shadows and golden light over the silent, gentle gravestones. The cemetery was peaceful and welcoming again. The grounds had very recently been mowed and cared for. (Weeds sprayed?)
 Thank you, caretaker, for giving me one last lovely view of Bird City's beautiful cemetery. Please take good care of the land where my family and friends rest until I return.
 God bless, Sondra

A Room at the Top
 To the editor:
 At the very top of the courthouse on the third floor is a small quiet room that not many people have visited. It has no windows and is approximately 8 foot square. Maybe at an earlier time there was regular activity nearby as prisoners were incarcerated in the holding cell next door or the jail cells down the hall.
 But now these rooms are empty and only the small room is used. It might bother some people to be up on the third floor alone but I feel at home there because of what this room is used for. You see this small room next to these jail cells has a far different use than its neighboring rooms had. Its walls are covered with shelves of food for the needy of Cheyenne County.
 These shelves were looking a little bare and I was beginning to be worried with the holidays upcoming and food baskets to be prepared. But I worried for no reason.
 The junior and senior class students organized a food drive the evening of Friday, Oct. 4 and they traveled all over town picking up sacks of groceries left on the curbs by thoughtful and caring citizens of St. Francis. Devin Dinkel and students carried 20 large boxes heaped with all kinds of food - 600 pounds - up three flights of steps to the Food Pantry.
 That's what this town stands for - caring about and supporting each other, helping each other and sharing the good times and bad times.
 Your Food Pantry is at work all year but is especially busy during the holidays. Throughout the year many organizations, clubs, churches and individuals support us with food items or money donated to the Food Pantry account at Super Foods. We couldn't operate without all of you.
 If you are a family that could use a little extra in the food line or if you know someone who is in need, now you know where we are located - a cozy little room at the top that feels like home. Come visit me!
 Reva Pownell, Coordinator,
 Cheyenne County Food Pantry



OUTSTANDING OLDER AMERICAN Barb Ewing and her son Ron showed senior citizens the flag which Rep. Jerry Moran presented her. The flag was flown over the Capitol when she was in Washington, D.C., representing Kansas. She also received a plaque. *Herald staff photo by Karen Krien*

October is National Cooperative month



October marks National Cooperative Month and there are a number of businesses in the county which join 120 million people across the nation in solving problems and enjoying a better life because they are cooperatives. More than 48,000 co-ops exist for farming, banking, healthcare, housing, electric and telephone service, grocery retailing and many other products and services.
 Businesses focus on advancing value-added agricultural processing and marketing activities for themselves and new cooperatives with the aim being to enable producers to retain ownership of their commodity further into the processing channel, enhancing their returns on investments and getting more profit out of their production.
 Today, cooperatives explores new ways for producers to get more profit out of their agricultural production. The average farmer has to grow more commodities each year in order to stay in business. It is no secret that turning farm products into consumer goods can be very profitable. With numerous

economic challenges many farmers and farmer-owned co-ops are looking into doing more with production than simply selling or moving the raw commodity.
 Cooperatives involve farmers, consumers, employees, small businesses, local officials and neighborhood and rural community residents who want cooperative action for greater rural development. As examples, Colorado farmers formed a co-op, bought a bakery and purchased an elevator to market quality wheat. Michigan growers are currently developing canned ready-to-eat organic soybeans. All of these projects and others like them aim to get farmers and ranchers further into the marketing, processing and distribution channels of our nation's food and fiber industry.
 Three of the cooperatives in Cheyenne County, Wheeler Equity Exchange, Prairie Land Electric Cooperative and St. Francis Equity, have an ad saluting National Cooperative Month on page 9 of the *St. Francis Herald* and page 6 of the *Bird City Times*.

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County Health Talk

This year 103,500 American women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 39,600 will die of the disease. Men can also get the disease but at far lower rates.
 In addition to taking care of your own health and having regular early detection tests, there is a lot you can do to fight this disease.
 Mammography is the single most effective method of early detection, since it can identify cancer several years before physical symptoms develop. Having screening mammograms can provide peace of mind for women, since most women who are screened will not have breast

cancer. When cancer is discovered, however, it is found earlier, when treatments can be more successful.
 Mammography is a low-dose X-ray procedure that allows visualization of the internal structure of the breast. Mammography is highly accurate, but like most medical tests, it is not perfect. On average, mammography will detect about 90 percent of breast cancers in women without symptoms, and it is somewhat more accurate in postmenopausal women compare with premenopausal women.
 The small percentage of breast cancers that are not identified by mam-

mography may be missed for any one of the following circumstances - breast density, faster growth rate, or simply failing to recognize the small early signs of an abnormality.
 Although the overwhelming majority of women who undergo screening each year do not have breast cancer, 5 to 10 percent of women will have their mammogram interpreted as abnormal or inconclusive until further tests can be done. In most instances, additional imaging test lead to a final interpretation of normal.

Bowling News

Ladies Nite
Out 10/17
 Team standings: Jake's 18-10; Dundy Ag 17-11; Troy's Alley Cat 17-11; Wright Carpet 14-14; Cheyenne Bowl 14-14; Jersey Maids 12-16; Great Plains Co-op 11-17; First National Bank 9-19.
 High game (scratch): Terry Yost 219; Irene O'Leary 202; Mary Bier 197
 High series (scratch): Kathy Blecha 530. Jeanne Dunn 515; Jenny Wright 510

Wednesday Coffee League 1/30
 Team standings: Krien Steel Buildings 19-5; The 3 G's 14-10; Cheyenne Bowl 13-11; Windmill Restaurant 12-12; Flower Magic 12-12; Snyder's Hay Gals 10-14; Sam's Electric 9-15; Dairy King 7-17.
 High game (scratch): Shirley Adkinson 210; Charlene Counce 201; Vada Leach 183
 High series (scratch): Adkinson 525; Counce 519; Leach 487

50th Anniversary Celebration

The Administration, Staff and Residents of the Good Samaritan Village will be hosting an
Open House
 Sunday, November 17
 Come spend some time with us and see the many improvements at the village, visit with the residents and staff and enjoy refreshments!

St. Francis Good Samaritan Village

Does the **FEAR** of technology keep you **GROUND**ED?
Decision Weather invites you to a **Technology Forum**.
 Demonstrations on the use of cellular phones, text-messaging & the Internet.
6:30 p.m.
October 24th at the **Decision Weather/Poling Chiropractic office complex**
 Please **RSVP to 1-866-SKY-EYES**
We'll see you there

Notice of Annual Stockholders Meeting of Wheeler Cooperative Merc. Equity Union

To be held in the High School Cafeteria in St. Francis, Kansas Fri., Nov. 1, 2002.
 Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.

THE AGENDA:
 Reading of annual report.
 Election of one director.
 All other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.
 Patronage checks will be handed out.

R.S.V.P. 785-332-2281 Daryl Loyd, Secretary

Want to learn skills for renewing your community?

- Gain new communication skills and improve your personal and professional effectiveness.
- Experience breakthroughs in the possibilities you see for yourself and your relationships with others.
- Develop and share ideas for enhancing your family, your business and your local community.

Come and learn more!
Landmark Education Life Skills FREE Introductory Seminar
2:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27
St. Francis Senior Center
All ages and occupations welcome!
Steak dinner following! Featuring Naturally Tender Beef by Callicrate, provided by Ranch Foods Direct

PRAIRIE PLAZA

Atwood's Extras:
 • 43 Acre Lake w/Walkway
 • Hayden Nature Trail
 • Abundant Wildlife
 • Great Hunting & Fishing
 • Rawlins County Airport
 • Renovated 1920's Theater
 • Active Civic Organizations
 • Friendly Small Town Folks
 • 9 Hole Golf Course & Country Club

Plaza Benefits
 • New 1 & 2 Bdrm. Apts.
 • Fully Equipped Kitchens
 • Single Car Garages
 • Beautiful Landscaping
 • Complete Maintenance
 • Snow Removal
 • Lighted Walkways
 • Housekeeping Every 2 Weeks

Independent Living for Active Retirees in Atwood, Kansas

Call for revised (1) bedroom apartment rates: 785-626-3211 or 1-800-914-8958

St. Francis Craft Show

Sat., Nov. 2 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. CT
St. Francis Grade School
Come Join The Fun!

► **Handcrafted items of all kinds**
 • Wreaths • Santa Dolls • Snowmen
 • Jewelry • Candles • Ornaments
 • Floral Arrangements • Wooden Furniture & Shelves
 • Baked Goods • And Much, Much More!!

► **Kids Craft Corner • Kids can make & take!**
Door Prizes • Lunch will be served 11:30-1:30
 Sponsored by The St. Francis Chamber of Commerce
 For more information call:
 Tammy Grice • 785-332-2910 or
 Bonnie Zweygardt • 785-332-2569

Elect Bob Strevey

Democratic Candidate for State Representative

- LTC-USAR Retired
- 31 Years Teaching
- Vietnam Veteran—Awarded Bronze Star
- Farmer and Stockman
- Pro Life
- Fiscal Conservative

PRIORITIES:

- Cut Spending on Buildings in Topeka and Selected Areas
- Fund Basic Education
- Meet State Responsibilities:
 - To Elderly and Infirm
 - To Prison Staff
 - To Agricultural Support
 - To Roads and Universities

Paid for by Bob Strevey for Representative, Kaye Strevey, Treasurer

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